

Review of: "Jung on the Meaning of Life"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This is a well written article, with detailed quotations and references. It is easy to read. It is more an exposition of Jung's thought over a long career than a critical analysis. It illustrates Jung's depth and antidogmatic attitude; his view that life is fundamentally unknowable (a mystery) and paradoxical in its essence. I like the frequent references to CW and other sources. The article only deals peripherally on the meaninglessness and nihilism including tragedy and despair. Freud was profoundly affected and his view of the world changed by WW1. There is no mention on how Jung dealt with either world and the magnitude of carnage and destruction. Last summer I visited the Junghaus on a private tour and in his consultation room over his desk is a stained glass crucifixion. I doubt that Jung's intentions were accidental. I like the way the article addresses "religion" for to declare that Jung was irreligious or antireligious would be an absurdity. Jung was clearly antireligious in the sense that he rejected the particular type of religion represented in the Swiss reformation, particularly the iconoclasm. He was fully aware of what happened 300 years earlier when Zwingli and his branch of Protestantism. On the other Murray Stein has written about the protestant roots of Jung's religiosity (cited below). I would have no suggestions on the organization of the manuscript. It is lucid, internally consistent, and accessible.

Stein, M. (2011). Jungian psychology and the spirit of Protestantism. *International Journal of Jungian Studies*, 3(2), 125-143. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19409052.2011.592722>